and (b) According to the information available with the Government, at present there are 6245 Indians imprisoned in foreign jails and 20S of them are in jails for more than 5 years.

(c) As soon as the Indian Mission abroad is informed of the arrest of an Indian national, a request is made to the host Government for consular access. An official of the Mission visits the detainee to ascertain the circumstances leading to the arrest. Wherever necessary, the Mission takes up the matter with the host Government for speedy and fair trial and also for review of the sentence.

Problem of Security Lapses

2485. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the special news report "Terrorist cases Government drags it feet, eats it words" published in the Indian Express dated 25th September, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps if any, are proposed to be taken to address the problems of grave security lapses and tardy progress in corrections highlighted in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item captioned "Terrorist cases: Government drags its feet, eats its words" which appeared in "The Indian Express" in its issue dated the 25th September, 2001 has been seen by the Government.

(b) and (c) The investigation in the five cases relating to arrest of terrorists mentioned in the news item in question has been completed by Delhi Police and the cases are at present subjudice.